

CT-1218

3938 3rd Street

North Beach, Calvert County

Private

Built between 1927 and 1930, and enlarged by 1938, 3938 3rd Street is a 1 1/2- story, five-bay, gable-front frame dwelling situated on a narrow, sloping lot. A full basement is present in the rear third of the house, while the front two-thirds of the house rest on a concrete pier foundation. While historic maps and smaller rear windows suggest the house was expanded toward the rear. Walls are sheathed with aluminum siding, but doors and most windows are original. This house is typical of many North Beach dwellings, because it is a modest, unadorned dwelling with a narrow frontage.

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

North Beach, Calvert County Survey
Survey Numbers CT-1215 through CT-1253
(excepting CT-1217, -1238, -1238, -1240, -1250 and-1251)

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): 1870-1930; 1930-Present

Historic Period Theme(s): 2) Architecture, Landscape and Community Planning

7) Social/Education/Cultural

Resource Type:

Category: building

Historic Environment: urban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): dwelling

Known Design Source: none

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. CT-1218

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Wise

and/or common 3938 3rd Street

2. Location

street & number 3938 3rd Street ☐ not for publicationcity, town North Beach ☐ vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Calvert

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
			<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Leonard & Margaret Merchant

street & number 9403 Warren Street telephone no.:

city, town Silver Spring state and zip code: Maryland 20910

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Courthouse liber ABE 757

street & number 310 Main Street folio 318

city, town Prince Frederick state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Evaluated in *Architectural Survey and Historic District Evaluation: North Beach, Maryland*date June, 1998 ☐ federal ☐ state ☒ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Crownsville state Maryland

7. Description

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Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

3938 3rd Street sits on the north side of a narrow, sloping lot. Its east wall closely situated to the neighboring structure, while an open lot located on the west side. The building is shaded by a number of mature trees. The house is a 1 ½ story, five-bay, gable-front frame structure. The front entrance is centrally placed. The rear (north) third contains a full basement, while the anterior portion rests on a concrete pier foundation. Exterior walls and eaves are clad in aluminum siding, but doors and most windows appear historic. Windows are primarily 2/2 double hung sash types. A notable exception to this pattern is the west wall, which contains a bay of paired, eight-light casement windows. These appear to be an original consideration. The attic level is illuminated by a pair of four-light casements. The glazed and paneled front door matches the door found in the west wall. The front entrance is located at grade level, but as a result of the change in slope, the west door is accessed by a flight of concrete steps that appear rebuilt. An exterior brick stove chimney is located at the mid-point of the building's east side. Sanborn maps suggest this build has been extended toward the rear. Evidence of this is obscured by aluminum siding, but rear windows are smaller than in the building's front.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance----Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) recreation

Specific dates	Builder/Architect						
Check: Applicable Criteria:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D			
and/or							
Applicable Exception:	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D	<input type="checkbox"/> E	<input type="checkbox"/> F	<input type="checkbox"/> G
Level of Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/> national	<input type="checkbox"/> state	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local				

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

3938 3rd Street is important for its association with the architectural development of the early-20th century summer colony and resort community of North Beach, Maryland. Please refer to continuation sheets for an historical sketch of the town.

This dwelling was built between 1927 and 1930 and expanded by 1938. It was likely built for Charles May who owned the unimproved property in 1927.

This modest, unadorned dwelling, with its narrow frontage, is typical of many North Beach buildings.

Section 8: History and Significance

North Beach is a fair to good example of an early 20th century summer resort colony and is a Maryland example of a national trend in community development initiated by the Industrial Revolution. Communities such as North Beach were a result of the growing middle class, mobility and consumerism resulting from the industrial economy that dominated the period. Dozens of beach resorts developed around the Chesapeake Bay in the years between the end of the Civil War and the Great Depression. Some, such as Gibson Island, catered to a rich, white, gentile clientele, while Highland Beach is an example of an African-American summer colony. North Beach was in the middle of the social spectrum. While deed restrictions excluded blacks, Jews were well represented in early North Beach. Excepting this major exclusion, by the standards of the day, North Beach was a heterogeneous middle-class summer community.

North Beach was platted in 1900 (revised in 1908) and incorporated in 1910. The town was developed by a group of principally Washington-based businessmen with ties to railroad, labor and banking. Conceived as a summer residential community and resort, the town was laid out according to a standard grid. In addition to houses, the town featured a variety of tourist and recreation-oriented businesses including theaters, restaurants, dance halls, bingo parlors, amusement arcades, and night clubs--including several gay clubs.

Most surviving historic buildings were constructed in the 1920s and 1930s, and include a good collection of early-20th century vernacular buildings. Represented building types include bungalows, shotguns, American Four Square and gable-front cottages. Most commercial buildings are either destroyed or extremely altered. Many of the town's historic structures were altered in the years immediately following World War II. In the post-war years North Beach completed a transformation begun in the 1930s, from a resort and summer colony to a permanent suburban community.

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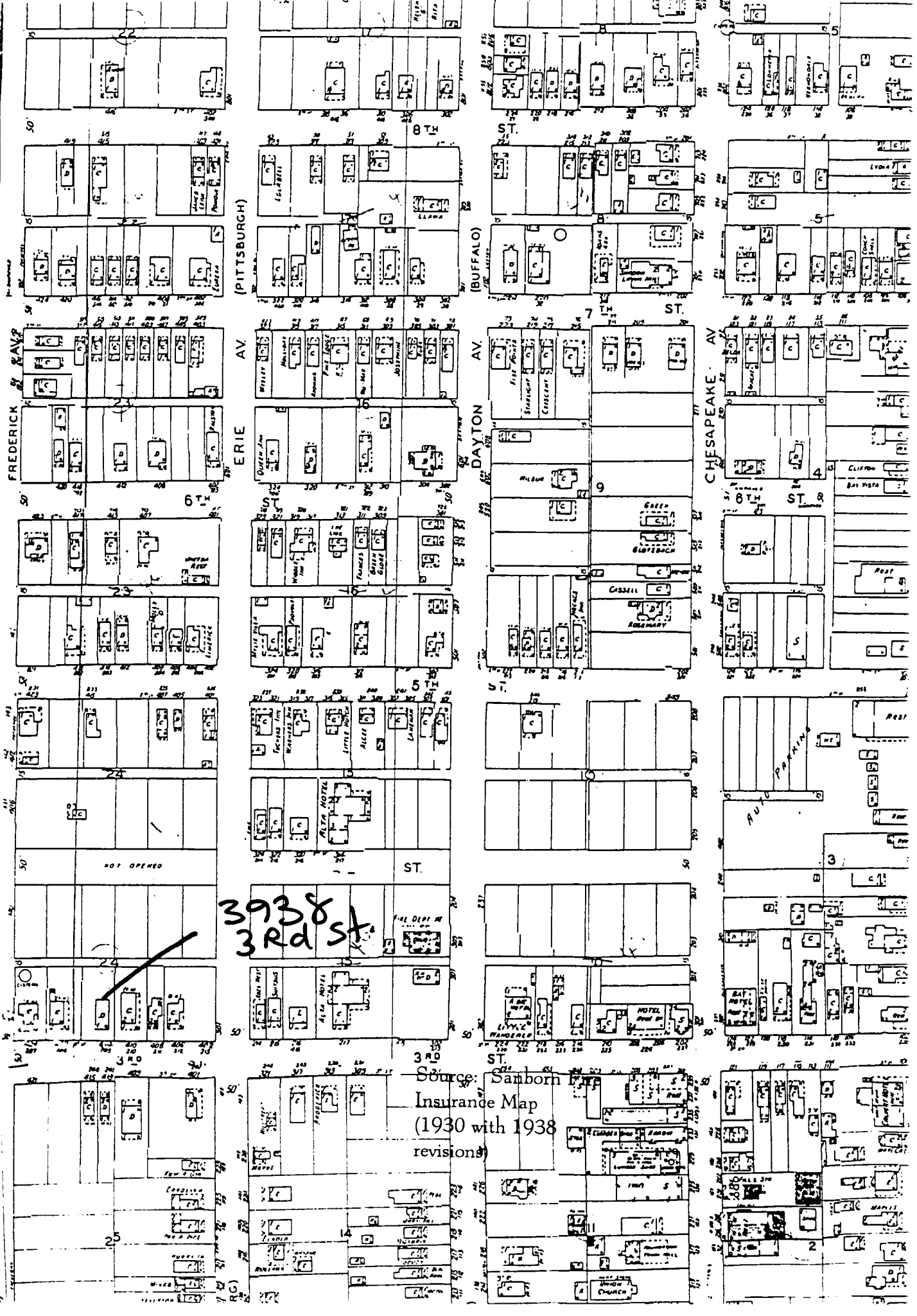
10. Geographical Data

H | | | | | | | | | |

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared by

PS-2746



CT-1218

3938
3rd St

Source: Sanborn
Insurance Map
(1930 with 1938
revisions)

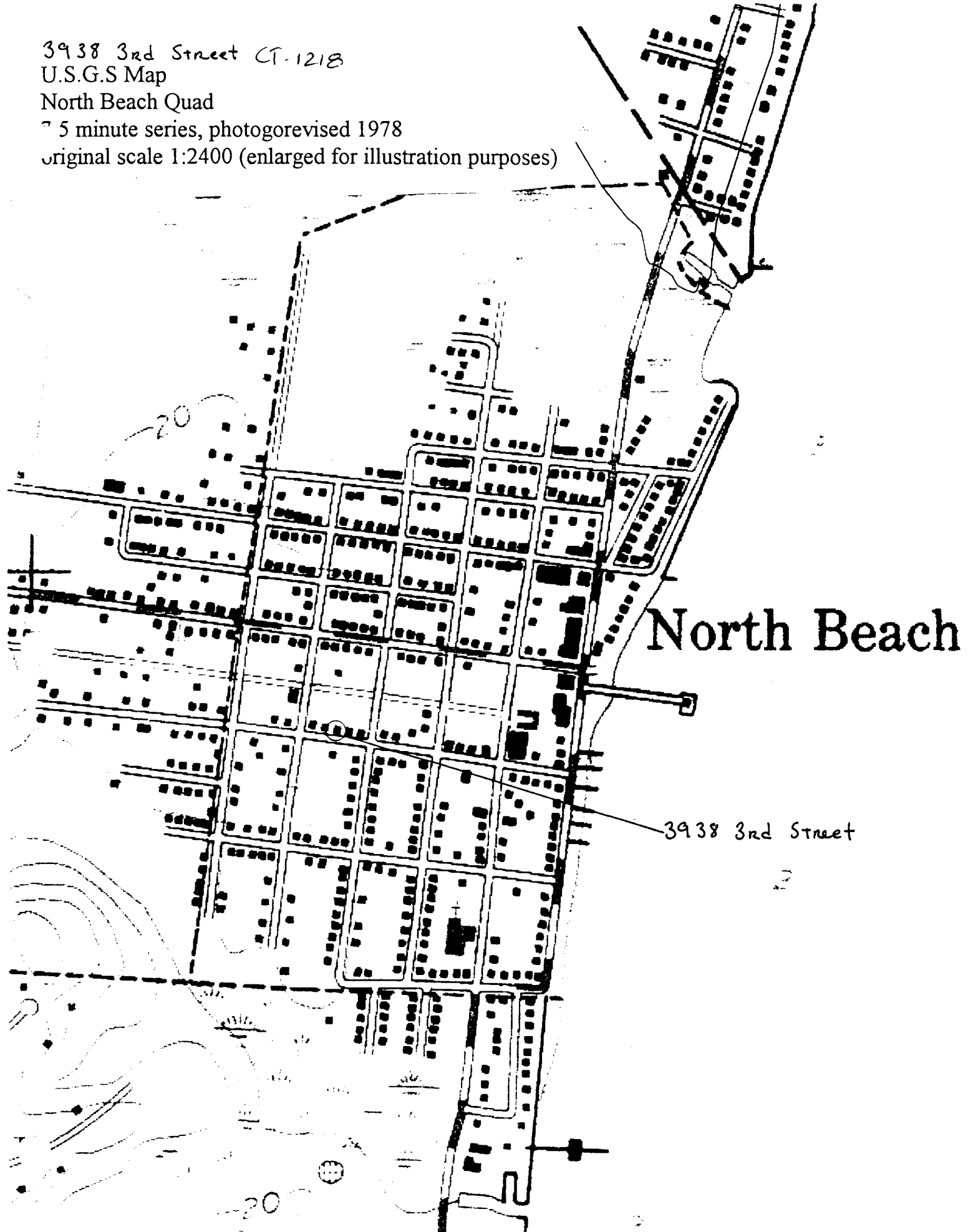
3938 3rd Street CT-1218

U.S.G.S Map

North Beach Quad

7 5 minute series, photorevised 1978

original scale 1:2400 (enlarged for illustration purposes)





CT-1218

3938 3rd Street, North Beach

CALVERT COUNTY, MD

SHERRI MARSH, Photographer

3/98

SOUTH EAST PERSPECTIVE

1/1